

**Monthly Regular Meeting of the  
Village of Fleischmanns Board of Trustees  
MINUTES  
February 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm  
Skene Library**

**AGENDA AND MINUTES**

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call - Trustees Aaron Goldring, Stewart Cohen, Sam Gil, and Mayor Zubin present. Yasmin Sarabia, Absent. Public in attendance: Vicky Szerko, Christine Panas, Anita Rubin, Marilyn Ringel, Abe Mendlovich, Roy Todd, Justin Kolb, Barbara Kolb, Jon Frank, Todd Pascarella, and Heidi Stonier. Video Attendance: Larry Reilly
1. Announcements- There were no announcements to be made.
2. Approve prior minutes
  - a. January 12, 2023\*
  - b. January 26, 2022\*
  - c. February 6, 2023\* to make motion into a resolution. Stewart Cohen motioned to approve Prior Minutes, Sam Gil Seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
3. Reports
  - a. WWTP/Water monthly reports January 2023 \*
  - b. Code enforcement monthly report of permits January 2023\*
  - c. Treasurer's report December 31, 2022\* which includes the budget modifications. Motion to accept Reports made by Stewart Cohen, seconded by Sam Gil, all in favor, Motion Carried.
4. Old Business
  - a. Public spaces report
    - i. Dog control- Sam Gil said he had reached out 3 times but didn't contact the Wagner Ave property owner. The Mayor explained that there are fines for having a dog off of a leash, but without a Dog control officer, it makes it hard to enforce these laws. She went on to say that the County Sheriff have been helping, by dropping by the dog owner's house and reminding them that the dog needs to be kept leashed.  
The Mayor is working on getting someone trained and hired to be the Dog Control Officer in Fleischmanns.
    - ii. Winter/Summer recreation planning- Trustee Gil announced that Trustee Sarabia had been working with the local fire departments to schedule a bon-fire for this coming President's Holiday weekend. Fleischmanns fire dept. was unavailable, but they were looking into neighboring fire departments to help out so that the bon fire might be held.
    - iii. Coordination with Fleischmanns First-public space planning -  
The Mayor went over the presentation that Anne Hersch had made back in August of 2022 where she had told of the 17 Public spaces in Fleischmanns and how they will all have a defined landscape, and will promote tourism, good health, bring

economic development, and environmental stability to Fleischmanns.

b. Fundraising

- i. O'Connor ask for 1023 demolition -The Village was informed that the property will be auctioned off in Delhi April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Does the village want to buy the property? Do we have a use for the property? The County Treasurer stated that any reasonable offer would be considered. The village already owns 11 properties, so would it be worth it to acquire yet another one? Roy Todd asked if there would be any financial obligation? The Mayor said that the county said no, there would not be any financial obligation. Trustee Cohen asked how much it would cost the Village to demolish the building if we were to buy it, and the Mayor said it would be \$30,000-\$50,000 due to prevailing wage. So, she asked, should we let it go to auction? Trustee Gil asked if they needed an answer right now and the Mayor said they could wait, it would need to be thought over carefully. Board chose to wait.
- ii. Fleischmanns Heights bridge/culvert proposal\* The Mayor informed everyone that the Fleischmanns Heights Bridge/Culvert is collapsing, which causes a problem because it is an access to many properties, including the Spillian and the Depot for the Delaware Ulster RR. The Village is working with Delaware County DPW, NYSDOT, Spillian, and our Engineers and we have a proposal from Ryan Biggs. There is no need for a decision now, but we have submitted for an \$18,000 proposal to evaluate and make recommendations for Capital work to restore the bridge. Initial estimates 2 years ago by the DPW was a half a million dollars to fix this bridge. So, we need to raise funds for the study and subsequently for capital costs to implement the recommendations. Trustee Cohen suggested keeping the bridge a single lane bridge, which would keep people from driving on the collapsing side. Roy Todd brought up that if you looked underneath the bridge, you would see that what is collapsing is the added on "second Lane" and if it were to be taken off the bridge would be back to its original state. The Mayor said that the evaluation would be able to answer those questions.
- iii. Infrastructure grants-roads, stormwater retrofit was discussed the two projects that were brought up were Schneider Ave, which has runoff from Old Halcott Rd to Depot Street. And, the intersection of Wagner and Ellsworth where there is a lack of drainage. Both of these projects are \$100,000 plus projects and Grants need to be found to pay for these projects.
- iv. Mark Project submitted a rate schedule for writing grants in lieu of an annual flat fee. The alternative is to write grants ourselves.

writing fee schedule\* The MARK Project would like the village to appoint a grant liaison to work with Peg on funding needs and available opportunities. If we wish to engage MARK to write the grants for us, they will enter into a contract for that specific grant at that time. Charging a fee per grant instead of a yearly fee.

5. New

a. Sewer operator and Water Operator contract renewals\*

Discussion of increase to WWTP contract of 4%, and discussion of possible increase to charges to turn on and turn offs of water clients to equal charges incurred by village for this service, as currently the village bills customers less than cost incurred.

Mayor requested motion authorizing her to negotiate with Cedarwood regarding Sewer charges. Trustee Cohen made motion, seconded by Trustee Goldring, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor requested motion authorizing her to negotiate with Cedarwood regarding charges to village for water services. Trustee Cohen made motion, seconded by Trustee Gil, all in favor, motion carried.

b. Delaware County Planning Consultation Contract\*

Brief explanation from Mayor as to ongoing need for assistance from Delaware County Planning in regards to local law and zoning changes. Mayor asked for motion to approve renewing the contract at \$3500 per year. Trustee Gil made motion, seconded by Trustee Cohen, all in favor, motion carried.

c. Memorial Day Street Fair approvals\*

Mayor advised village is working with Fleishmann's First to set up Memorial Day Street Fair for May 28, 2023 from 10am-4pm and 7am-5pm for set up and breakdown, working under the village's insurance, and with village crew assisting with barricades and garbage removal, and Fire Dept to manage traffic. Trustee Cohen requested more garbage receptacles than in previous years to reduce litter.

Mayor requested motion to accept Fleischmanns First proposal for Memorial Day Street Fair administration. Trustee Gil made motion, seconded by Trustee Cohen, all in favor, motion carried.

d. Priorities for 2023.2024\*

A brief discussion was had touching on priority items on list for new budget. It was decided that more in depth discussion would be needed and that a workshop should be held for this. After discussion a public workshop was set for February 27, 2023 at 5pm.

e. Formation of Theater Steering Committee Leadership Committee

The mayor recommended Heidi Stonier, Demetra Platis, and Justin Kolb to be the leadership Committee members, and asked for a motion to appoint them. Trustee Cohen made motion, seconded by Trustee Goldring, all in favor, motion carried.

f. Appointment of Clean Energy Community Liaison

The mayor recommended Ben Leer to be appointed as the villages Clean Energy Liaison as he has experience in this field and has done extensive research on clean energy methods that may be helpful to the

village to reduce costs. Trustee Cohen made motion, seconded by Trustee Goldring, all in favor, motion carried.

- g. Motion made to authorize Mayor to negotiate engineering contract with Cedarwood re WWTP upgrade. Trustee Cohen made motion, seconded by Trustee Gil, all in favor, motion carried.
- h. Motion to authorize Fleishmann's First to Proceed with Public Spaces plan. Mayor will plan to meet with Trustee Sarabia this week to finalize plans. Motion made by Trustee Goldring seconded by Trustee Cohen, all in favor, motion carried.

## 6. Public Comment

Vicky Szerko raised questions on the Fleischmanns Heights bridge, repairs, and legal responsibilities. Mayor advised that responsibilities shared between village, DURR, and NYS DOT.

Roy Todd questioned as to whether or not Town of Hardenberg and Town of Middletown had any shared responsibility for the road/bridge. Further investigation would be needed to answer that question.

Anita Rubin questioned who will be the election inspectors for the March 21, 2023 elections. Clerk noted that Stacey Skelly, Dana Baker, were inspectors with alternate inspector being George Muller.

Anita Rubin questioned grants that village may be eligible for, who writes them, can anyone write a grant, and can the village negotiate with MARK for better rates for their assistance. Mayor noted that there are different grants available with differing requirements and that the village can write some but other would need the professional assistance from MARK project for better results.

Todd Pascarella noted that the property next door, poses a safety hazard for all community members and that village should be vigilant in getting this issue resolved quickly.

Justin Kolb suggested that the village update our state assemblyman on the bridge/road and request a visit for possible assistance in getting funding expedited.

Heidi Stonier noted that the village should apply for housing grants, as housing is an essential need for villages to thrive.

Vicky Szerko asked if the village can buy the property next door, demolish and resell? Mayor responded yes that is one option.

Barbara Kolb asked if the village can buy the property before it goes up for auction. Mayor responded yes that is also an option.

Mayor noted that the village will be exploring options for a PILOT program. PILOT is short for payment in lieu of taxes. As there are properties in the village that are exempt from taxes, but using services it is an alternative to increasing taxes to the rest of the community. One public member recommended that the best place to start on this is to seek guidance from other communities who currently have a PILOT program currently in use.

Mayor asked for any other comments, no response, public comment portion closed.

7.Next meeting: regular Village Trustee meeting March 13, 2023

8.Motion to audit vouchers. Trustee Gil made motion, seconded by Trustee Cohen, all in favor, motion carried.

9.Motion to Adjourn meeting made by Trustee Gil, seconded by Trustee Cohen, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.

\*document included for board members

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/8452545514?pwd=YlJUK0hHOFhqYjhXb1BJelpRMHNVZz09>

Meeting ID: 845 254 5514

Passcode: 12430

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

**Vouchers:**

**Motion to Audit OFFERED BY: Trustee Gil, Seconded by: Trustee Cohen. All in favor.**

**WHEREAS**, The Department of Audit and Control requires Village Boards to sign and inspect all vouchers coming into the Village for payment, to number and total amounts from each fund. All trustees present ayed, motion carried, vouchers to be initialed individually by Trustees who shall come to village office singularly. Any vouchers not receiving three initials shall not be paid till questions of the Board answered to their satisfaction.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village Board authorizes the following February vouchers paid:

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$15,555.63</b>	<b>Vouchers 243-266</b>
<b>Sewer Fund</b>	<b>\$32,299.72</b>	<b>Vouchers 113-127</b>
<b>Water Fund</b>	<b>\$2,854.54</b>	<b>Vouchers 65-69</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$50,709.89</b>	

The next regular meeting will be held on March 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Dated: February 13, 2023

Diane Rossman, Village Clerk, Village of Fleischmanns

State of New York)) ss: County of Delaware)

I, Diane Rossman, Village Clerk of the Village of Fleischmanns, New York do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true & correct transcript of the Special Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees and the motions and resolutions adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Fleischmanns, New York on February 13, 2023 and the whole thereof.



Village Clerk

